BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 88-627-C - ORDER NO. 92-1032
DECEMBER 7, 1992

IN RE: Application of Business Telecom,)
Inc. for Authority to Operate as a Reseller of Interexchange) HEARING
Telecommunications Services within the State of South Carolina.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) pursuant to a Petition for Declaratory Order filed on behalf of Business Telecom, Inc. (BTI or the Company) pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §§58-9-1010 and 1-23-10, et seq. (Cum. Supp. 1991) and R.103-821 and R.103-836(A)(2) of the Rules and Regulations pertaining to practice and procedure before the Public Service Commission.

The facts leading up to this Petition are as follows: On March 28, 1989, the Commission issued to BTI a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide intrastate telecommunications service in the State of South Carolina. BTI is certified to provide intrastate telecommunications services pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. \$58-9-10 et seq. (Cum. Supp. 1991). The Certificate granted to BTI is similar to that of other interexchange carriers certified in South Carolina.

According to the Petition of BTI, BTI alleges that the provision of intraLATA service is incidental to its provision of interLATA service. BTI alleges that it compensates Southern Bell for all intraLATA traffic completed by BTI within the State of South Carolina pursuant to the requirements of the Commission. BTI also alleges that "consistent with long-standing practice in South Carolina, BTI's customers access BTI through the use of 1+ 700 dialing."

In August, 1992, BTI received a request from the Commission Staff for certain information concerning BTI's completion of intraLATA calls and the use of 1+ 700 by BTI's customers to access its services. BTI duly responded to the Staff's request. BTI was notified on November 13, 1992, by the Staff that "since BTI is not reselling a switched service of Telecom and is in fact utilizing its own switch for completion of intraLATA calls," BTI should prevent BTI's customers from accessing BTI on a 1+ 700 basis. BTI responded to the Commission Staff by filing its Petition for Declaratory Order which requests the Commission to declare that BTI's practices are consistent with its authority under its certificate or to establish a hearing in this matter.

The Commission has determined that based on the information available to the Commission, that a hearing should be held so that BTI, the Commission Staff or any other interested party, can

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present evidence to the Commission concerning the provision of intraLATA service by BTI through the use of 1+ 700 access. The Commission will notify the parties participating in this Docket as to the date and time of the hearing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Mairman y

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)